



Document title	Annotations to the Provisional Agenda
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Agenda Item	1 – Adoption of the Agenda
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Submitted by	Executive Secretary
Reference	

The 41st Meeting of the Helsinki Commission will start on Wednesday, 4 March at 10:00 with a high-level segment focusing on the update of the HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan and HELCOM global outreach including voluntary commitments to the 2020 UN Ocean Conference. The regular Commission Meeting will be convened after lunch on 4 March and it is expected to terminate on Thursday, 5 March by 16:00.

The Meeting will be chaired by the Chair of the Helsinki Commission, Ms. Saara Bäck.

Agenda Item 1 Adoption of the Agenda

The Meeting is invited to adopt the Provisional Agenda (document 1-1).

Agenda Item 2 High-level segment with a focus on the update of the Baltic Sea Action Plan and HELCOM global outreach including voluntary commitments to UN Ocean Conference 2020

High-level representatives of the Baltic Sea countries and EU will meet on 4 March 2020 on the occasion of the 41st Meeting of the Helsinki Commission to discuss the update of the HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan (BSAP) and HELCOM's contributions and outreach on global ocean matters, including its voluntary commitments to the 2020 UN Ocean Conference.

The high-level segment will be invited to adopt the outcome to be prepared in advance by the Contracting Parties with the assistance of the Secretariat.

Agenda Item 3 Outcome of the HELCOM Stakeholder Conference

The HELCOM Stakeholder Conference focusing on the update of the Baltic Sea Action Plan (BSAP) will be held on 3 March 2020 at in Helsinki, Finland, back-to-back with HELCOM 41-2020. The outcome of the Conference will be presented to the Meeting for consideration.

Agenda Item 4 Update of the Baltic Sea Action Plan

Through the BSAP update process the existing HELCOM objectives are being reviewed and new objectives are developed. HOD 57-2019 agreed on a provisional set of objectives that have been further adjusted by an ad hoc Group of Chairs of HELCOM Working Groups. The Meeting is invited to agree provisionally on the set of HELCOM objectives for the updated BSAP.

The Meeting is invited to take note of the progress and guide the analysis of sufficiency of measures as appropriate.

HOD 56-2019 agreed to establish a Task Group for finalizing a HELCOM Science Agenda to be adopted together with updated BSAP. The Meeting is invited to agree on the further development of the HELCOM Science Agenda, as proposed by the Science Agenda Task Group.

Agenda Item 5 Matters arising from the subsidiary bodies

The Meeting is invited to adopt the following draft revised and new HELCOM Recommendations:

- "Use of national manure standards";
- "Management of dredged material" (36/2) and HELCOM Guidelines for Management of Dredged Material at Sea;
- "Protection of harbour porpoise" (17/2);
- "Enhancing the use of pilots in route T and the Sound" (23/3);
- "Deep-Sea Pilotage in the Baltic Sea"

The Meeting is invited to withdraw HELCOM Recommendation 24/7 on Further development and use of drift forecasting for oils and other harmful substances in the Baltic.

The Meeting is invited to adopt the Roadmap on fisheries data in order to assess incidental bycatches and fisheries impact on benthic biotopes in the Baltic Sea.

The Meeting is invited to adopt the PLC-8 project proposal.

The Meeting is invited to approve the HOLAS III preliminary plan and associated documents.

The Meeting is invited to take note of the outcome of the First Meeting of Chairpersons of HELCOM main groups to be held in Helsinki, Finland, on 2 March 2020 and to endorse the organization of such meetings on an annual basis in the future.

Agenda Item 6 Activities of the Commission during 2019 and contributions to the work of the Helsinki Commission

The Executive Secretary will give a statement in accordance with the decision by the Commission (HELCOM 4/17, Paragraph 2.4) on the work of the Secretariat including his comments and evaluation of the work of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies. The Meeting will be invited to take note of the statement.

The Meeting is invited to approve the 2019 HELCOM activities report, which was prepared having regard to Rule 11.4 of the Rules of Procedure of the Helsinki Commission.

The Contracting Parties, Observer Governments and Observer Organizations are invited to give their statements, if so wished, under this Agenda Item. If possible, the statements should be received by the Secretariat in written form in advance of the Meeting. The oral statements should not last longer than five minutes and should concentrate on concrete contributions to the work of the Commission.

Agenda Item 7 Accounts 2018–2019, budget 2020–2021 and other institutional and organisational matters of the Commission

The Meeting is invited to take note of the explanatory memorandum on the accounts of the Helsinki Commission for the financial period 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019, to adopt the Audit Report by the State Audit Office of Finland together with the Financial Statement, to discharge the accountables from responsibility in respect of the implementation of the budget 2018-2019.

The Meeting is invited to consider and adopt the budget for the financial period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021 to be submitted at a later stage.

The draft budget estimate for the following financial period (2021-2022) will be submitted to the Meeting as per Financial Rule 2.

The Meeting will be invited to approve the amended Staff regulations for the professional staff of the Helsinki Commission Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission, as submitted by the Secretariat.

The Meeting is invited to consider the application for observer status to HELCOM of the European Manufacturers of Expanded Polystyrene (EUMEPS) and the Nordic Boat Council and to decide as appropriate.

Agenda Item 8 Any other business

The Meeting might wish to discuss any other matters under this Agenda Item.

Information on construction of the waterway connecting the Vistula Lagoon with the Gulf of Gdańsk.

Agenda Item 9 Next meeting(s) of the Commission

The Meeting will be invited to decide on the dates of the next meetings of the Commission.

Agenda Item 10 Outcome of the Meeting

A draft outcome of the Meeting, reflecting decisions made, will be prepared and presented for consideration and adoption before the closing of the Meeting.